



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Narrative Report on Partnership Process for Electronic Warfare (EW) Acquisition

We commissioned a "partnership" team, in June 1995, to "transform the EW acquisition process to consistently put superior solutions in the hands of America's warfighters as quickly and inexpensively as possible." Membership of this partnership team represented the warfighter, the program management community, development and operational test and evaluation communities, and industry. These experts have provided a collection of valuable insights to realize our vision of "a single team which closes the gaps between our organizations using a disciplined process to quantify the requirement, make informed cost/performance trades, and demonstrate military worth of the resulting system."

This partnership team has documented the results of their deliberations and reform recommendations in the attached "Narrative Report." This product has good potential to facilitate acquiring *better, faster, and cheaper* solutions to the warfighter's needs. Many proposals are described in the Narrative Report to improve our acquisition processes. These proposals range from evolutionary to truly innovative ideas. Two themes are present throughout this report: the importance of a partnership approach across our organizations and a rigorous and structured analysis throughout the acquisition process.

This Narrative Report should be reviewed and used as applicable to improve every EW acquisition activity; however, existing AF policies and guidance, such as the EW Test Process (AFI 99-112) remain in force until changes are officially approved. The next step is to fully coordinate plans with the affected organizations to implement recommendations that make sense. We expect all personnel involved in the acquisition of EW systems to read this report and seriously consider the underlying themes. Our desire is to institutionalize improvements that prove "value-added" to the EW acquisition process and to update Air Force instructions and guidance as appropriate.

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